



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

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# MINUTES

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**WEDNESDAY, August 21, 2024**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission (Youth Commission) was held on August 21, 2024, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Youth Commission Vice Chair Daphne Zhu called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**1.1 ROLL CALL**

A quorum was established with 13 members present.

**Members in attendance were:**

District 1: Lorelei Henry

District 2: Ca Nha Dang, Andrew Lomio, and Niharika Koduru

District 3: Prathik Janakiram and Nina Yuan

District 4: Agata Bak, Ellie Zhou, and Christopher Barsoum

District 5: Aditya Shivakumar and Vice Chairperson Daphne Zhu

District 6: David Huynh

District 7: Maitreya Banerjee and Oded Bronicki

**Members not in attendance were:**

District 1: Ishaan Mandala and Elena Alegre

District 3: Parnika Sadhu

District 5: Grace Liu

District 6: Soleil Hernandez

Commissioners Jonathan Lopez and Doyoon Kim arrived late.

Board Chairperson Nai Hsueh, District 5, was present.

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Brandon Adriano, Ricardo Barajas, Lakeisha Bryant, Andy Gschwind, Nick Ingram, Dave Leon, Elizabeth Park, and Kristen Yasukawa.

Public in attendance were: Elena Alegre, Jan Henry, PK, and Parnika Sadhu.

**2. WELCOME**

Director Hsueh provided remarks to the Commission.

**3. OATH OF OFFICE**

Oaths of office were administered to new members in attendance.

**4. INTRODUCTIONS**

Valley Water staff and Commission members introduced themselves.

**5. INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY**

The Commissioners played a game called Four Corners.

**6. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON**

The Commission elected Niharika Koduru as Chairperson and Maitreya Banerjee as Vice Chairperson. Chairperson Koduru assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

**7. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There was no one who wished to speak.

**8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Member Bronicki, seconded by Member Zhu, and unanimously carried, to approve the April 17, 2024 Commission meeting minutes as submitted.

**9. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

**9.1. RECEIVE PRESENTATION RELATING TO VALLEY WATER BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 17-75**

Ricardo Barajas and Dave Leon reviewed the information on this item relating to the establishment, structure, and purpose of the Youth Commission.

The Commission received the information and took no formal action.

**9.2. BROWN ACT OVERVIEW AND TRAINING**

Andy Gschwind provided information relating to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

The Commission received the information and took no formal action.

**9.3. UPDATE FROM SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUPS AND AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Member Lopez left at 8:03 p.m.

Chairperson Koduru introduced the first video of the Youth Commission Career Day video project series.

Member Dang noted that the Purified Water Outreach Working Group plans a post on social media inviting school environmental clubs to visit the water purification center.

Nick Ingram provided information relating to the September 21, 2024 Coastal Cleanup Day and invited the Commissioners to contact him if there is interest in participating or hosting a cleanup site.

Member Zhu noted that the Youth Community Science Network Working Group blog posts relating to where water comes from, water pollutants, and water purification are in the final stages of editing.

Director Hsueh informed the Commission that the Policy Writing Subcommittee item is scheduled to be heard by the Board of Directors on August 27, 2024.

**9.4. DISCUSS AND APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO PROJECT-BASED MODELS IN PLACE OF WORKING GROUPS FOR COMMISSION WORK PLAN**

Kristen Yasukawa provided information relating to the Commission moving from the previously established working groups to a project-based model for Commission work.

It was moved by Member Zhu, seconded by Chairperson Koduru, and unanimously carried, to adopt a project-based approach in place of working groups.

**9.5. REVIEW SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS; AND DISCUSS POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR THE COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

Member Shivakumar left at 8:33 p.m.

Member Zhu requested adding an item relating to updates on Board actions to the next meeting agenda.

**10. MANAGER'S REPORT**

Kristen Yasukawa provided information relating to the Commission retreat and distributed a QR code that leads to a poll to gauge interest in subject matter to be discussed at the retreat. She further reported that the Lexington Reservoir site will be the Youth Commission site for Coastal Cleanup Day.

**11. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD**

The Commission took no action.

**12. ADJOURN**

Chairperson Koduru adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Dave Leon  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II  
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved: October 16, 2024

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